

For Immediate Release: November 15, 2010 Contact: Gina Ginouves 435-865-3011

Cedar City BLM to Host Scoping Meetings for Resource Management Planning Effort

Cedar City - The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM), Cedar City Field Office will host three public scoping meetings to kick off the preparation of the Cedar City Field Office Resource Management Plan (RMP). This new plan will replace the existing land use plans for the Cedar City Field Office which includes the Cedar Beaver Garfield Antimony RMP of 1986 and the Pinyon Management Framework Plan of 1983. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 as amended and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared to support this planning effort.

The Cedar City BLM Field Office is excited to lead the development of a new RMP. The planning area is located in Beaver, Iron, and a small portion of Washington counties, Utah and encompasses approximately 2.1 million acres of public land. Preliminary issues to be addressed in the plan include the following: renewable energy development for geothermal, wind, and solar power; management of site type rights-of-way for renewable energy and other uses; visual resource management; evaluation of potential new Areas of Critical Environmental Concern; Wild and Scenic River recommendations; Off-Highway Vehicle Designations and Special Recreation Management Areas; Wild Horse and Burro management; and fluid minerals management stipulations to protect sensitive resources.

This planning process will seek input from many municipal, county, and state government entities, American Indian Tribes, other federal agencies, and the general public. The Cedar City Field Office will use an interdisciplinary team approach in the preparation of the new plan.

Three scoping meetings will be held to provide the public with opportunities to learn about the plan that is to be developed and to share any information, concerns, or comments they may have. The meetings will be in an open house format and representatives from BLM's Cedar City Field Office will be available to answer questions. The meetings are scheduled from 5pm to 8pm MST on the following dates at these locations:

Cedar City – Tuesday, December 7, 2010 Festival Hall Convention Center Room 7 96 North Main Cedar City, UT 84720 Beaver - Wednesday, December 8, 2010

Beaver Library Meeting Room 55 West Center Street Beaver, UT 84713

Salt Lake City – Thursday, December 9, 2010

Salt Lake City Library Conference Room 4 210 East 400 South Salt Lake City, UT 84111

The public scoping period began with publication of the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register on September 10, 2010 and ends on December 27, 2010. Written comments may be submitted at the scoping meetings, by letter to the address below, or by e-mail to utccrmp@blm.gov. Please include "Resource Management Plan Cedar City Field Office, Utah and associated Environmental Impact Statement" in your correspondence. All comments must be received on or before the close of business, Monday, December 27, 2010.

Attention: Planning Project Manager c/o Bureau of Land Management Cedar City Field Office 176 East DL Sargent Drive Cedar City, UT 84721

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to have your personal identifying information withheld from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Please contact BLM Planner Gina Ginouves at (435) 865-3011 to request additional information regarding the meetings.

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The BLM manages more land – 253 million acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.